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I am writing in reference to Senate Bill 337 that seeks to abolish the tax presently imposed on car washes.

Since the DOT began using the new material for treatment of road surfaces I have noted a significant deterioration of the undercarriage of my vehicle. It has caused rusting of the frame and other components that previously did not exist. I have written to my representative about that very issue and requested the adoption of a less corrosive material. It was to no avail.

The only option that now exist to prevent failure of brake lines, exhaust systems, and the frame itself is with frequent car washes to remove the harmful elements of the treatment material. To allow the chemicals to remain would surely result in expensive repairs and the potential for mechanical failure that may result in a collision.

Although we were fortunate this year with a mild winter that saw less use of deicing agents it is not always the case. Last winter was a perfect example of the harsh weather we can usually expect. Therefore, it goes without saying that given a normal winter here the frequency of preventative washing would increase significantly. Certainly that would be a boon for the tax department, but an economic hardship for those on fixed incomes such as myself. It goes without saying that replacing a vehicle due to premature deterioration would likewise be an economic hardship.

Please repeal this burdensome tax as it will provide those with limited income the ability to maintain their vehicles without having to replace long before it's normally necessary.